

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ink jet printing apparatus which performs printing by moving a print head in a main scan  
5 direction and also feeding a print medium in a subscan direction crossing the main scan direction, the ink jet printing apparatus comprising:

a detection means for detecting a travel range of the print head;

10 a decision means for determining whether or not the detected travel range is a proper travel range; and

a control means for performing a predetermined control if the decision means decides that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range.

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2. An ink jet printing apparatus which performs printing by moving a print head in a main scan direction and also feeding a print medium in a subscan direction crossing the main scan direction, the ink  
20 jet printing apparatus comprising:

an ink tank containing ink to be supplied to the print head and removably mounted on the print head;

a restricting member for interfering with the ink tank to limit a travel range of the print head to less  
25 than a proper travel range only if the ink tank mounted on the print head is not properly mounted on the print head;

a decision means for determining whether or not the travel range of the print head is a proper travel range; and

a control means for performing a predetermined control if it is decided that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range.

3. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein, when the decision means decides that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range, it makes a decision on whether the ink tank is properly mounted on the print head and/or on whether an obstacle for a print head movement exists in a path of the print head, according to the travel range of the print head.

4. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when it is decided that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range, the control means stops a drive means for the print head and at the same time makes an annunciation representing a result of the decision made through a predetermined annunciation means.

5. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the restricting member is constructed of a housing material of the ink jet printing

apparatus.

6. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the obstacle for the movement of the print head is a protective packing material for the ink jet printing apparatus.

7. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the print head has a plurality of ink tanks arranged in the main scan direction and the decision means determines, based on the travel range, the number of ink tanks that are not properly mounted.

8. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the print head has a plurality of kinds of ink tanks which have different widths in the main scan direction and the decision means determines, based on the detected travel range, the kinds and/or the number of the ink tanks that are not properly mounted on the print head.

9. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the annunciation means is constructed of a display device provided on an ink jet printing apparatus body and

the control means causes the display device to display a warning when it is decided that the travel

range of the print head is not the proper travel range.

10. An ink jet printing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the annunciation means is a display device provided on an external device connected to the ink jet printing apparatus and

the control means sends a signal requesting the display device to issue a warning when it is decided that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range.

11. A method of controlling an ink jet printing apparatus, wherein the ink jet printing apparatus performs printing by moving a print head in a main scan direction and also feeding a print medium in a subscan direction crossing the main scan direction, the control method comprising the steps of:

detecting a travel range of the print head;

determining whether or not the travel range is a proper travel range; and

performing a predetermined control when it is decided that the travel range of the print head is not the proper travel range.